LAS VEGAS ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER RESIGNS

Lynette Boggs McDonald turned in her letter of resignation to City Manager Larry Barton effective February 14. McDonald, instrumental in several Las Vegas projects during her tenure, will be taking on a new job at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

### **JACKIE ROBINSON PARK OF FAME LAUNCHES FUNDRAISING DRIVE**

The Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, a community based, nonprofit organization, recently kicked-off a fundraising campaign to re-dedicate the Jackie Robinson Park located in downtown Stamford, Connecticut. The group hopes to create a permanent, living memorial to this outstanding American hero and former Stamford resident. Their mission includes the creation of a cultural and educational center offering a range of programs, activities and resources designed to enhance self-esteem, promote cultural pride and further the educational development of our youth. The educational programs will be modeled in Stamford and later replicated in other communities throughout the country.

#### **RELIVE THE SAGA OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY**

On Feb. 23-28 the History Channel will broadcast the miniseries "Roots: The Saga of An American Family," while A&M Records will also re-release the soundtrack by Quincy Jones on Feb. 4, 1997. Alex Haley spent 10 years and logged 500,000 miles researching his genealogy for his landmark 1976 book, "Roots." Producer David L. Wolper condensed that massive work into an epic, 12-hour TV miniseries, watched by a record 130 million Americans when it first aired. Veteran producer-composerarranger Quincy Jones has distilled the essence of both the book and the miniseries into a record that relates the saga in just 28 minutes. The album enables the listener to relive key scenes from the miniseries, including Kunta Kinte's birth, capture, the slave ship crossing, the slave auction, and a marriage ceremony. The first nine tracks are set in Africa and the last eight in America. **REP. MAXINE WATERS RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD** 

At a ceremony on Jan. 21, 1997, Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) was presented with the Organization of New Equality's annual Pioneer Award. She was selected to receive the award based on her leadership role in the fight to expand capital and business opportunities for women and minorities. Rep. Waters has served on the committee on Banking and Financial Services for her entire tenure in Congress. She is currently the Ranking Democrat on the Banking Subcommittee on General Oversight and Investigations. She is a leading defender of the Community Reinvestment Act, consumer laws, and protecting and improving laws which improve capital access for small, women, and minority entrepreneurs.

#### AFRICA URGED TO INVEST IN HUMAN RESOURCES

Well trained personnel, rather than natural resources, hold the key to Africa's economic growth, said Professor George Benneh, president of the Association of African Universities, at the opening of the association's ninth general conference in Lusaka, Zambia. "This is the challenge that faces African universities and this is also the reason why African governments have to invest more in training and research," he said. African universities, he said, need to increase research and help society find solutions to problems like hunger, disease and poverty. Failure to reach these types of goals could make African universities lose public confidence in the 21st century, he said. Addressing the same conference, the secretary-general of the Association of International Universities.

#### AFRICAN EXECUTIVES ATTEND **EXHIBITION IN HOUSTON**

Some 70 business executives from West Africa attended the Property Building Exhibition held from Jan. 24 to 27, in Houston, Texas. The exhibition is part of the U.S. Department of Commerce policy to increase business between American and West African contractors. It was reported that the African participants, who were split into seven groups, came from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. Frederic Gaynor, an official with the United States Commercial Service in Abidjan, said that the exhibition, sponsored by the National Association of Housing Buildings Constructors, offered an opportunity to "draw West Africans to the United States and to facilitate regional cooperation between French and Englishspeaking Africans." At least 2,000 participants attended the event where articles such as tiles, fitted carpets, household and audiovisual equipment were displayed.

#### The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE

# Garbled grafitti defaces Westside Credit Union

By Nancy Watson Sentinel-Voice

A pack of jumbled messages were scrawled in gold spray paint last Friday night across the outside of the Westside Federal Credit Union building at 418 Madison Ave.

"I was shocked. During our more than 20 years here, this is the first time this has happened," said Trudy Rainey, the Westside Credit Union manager.

Rainey said she did not know the cause of the graffiti nor does she recognize any of the markings. She said the markings resembled orange graffiti that defaced a nearby apartment building.

An officer with the Las Vegas police gang unit also said the graffitti was not recognizable. "The unknown markings were made by youngsters moving into



Trudy Rainey, manager of the credit union, said the grafitti incident will not deter the business' desire to continue serving the community. Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

the neighborhood from out of town," the officer said. "It appears they are Latin in origin and not would be painted, perhaps a

Rainey said the credit union the markings of a specific gang darker color, to prevent future

On a brighter note, the credit union is expanding its operation (See Grafitti, Page 5)

# Neighborhood group seeks painting project volunteers



Members of the West Las Vegas Neighborhood Executive Board have assembled a large supply of donated painting materials for this Saturday's community service project.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

By Nancy Watson Sentinel-Voice

The members of the West Las Neighborhood Executive Board have "begged and borrowed" to lend a hand to seniors and the disabled members of the community.

Weather permitting this Saturday morning, the neighborhood association along with apprentices from the painters union, will begin painting the homes of seniors and others who need help maintaining the exterior appearance of their residences.

"Some members of our community who live on fixed incomes find it very hard to come up with the resources for painting their homes," said Alice Wilson, chairwoman of the board.

(See Painters, Page 5)

## **Black history celebration** to benefit scholarship fund

By Sharon Y. Savage Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN) is sponsoring their second annual "Jazz, Wine and Spirits Black History Celebration" Sunday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. The program will be held at the Cheyenne campus

in the student lounge.

The faculty and students at CCSN recognize the importance of recruiting minority students, but more importantly, retaining those students once they have enrolled. "This is our way of giving back to the community and (See Wine, Page 16)



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